

What is claimed is:

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1. A receiving apparatus comprising:

a receiving means for receiving an electronic mail transmitted through a network;

a first extracting means for extracting encrypted certification information inserted in said electronic mail received by said receiving means;

a second extracting means for extracting a control command inserted in said electronic mail received by said receiving means for controlling a predetermined electric device;

a decrypting means for decrypting said certification information extracted by said first extracting means;

a certifying means for certifying, by referencing the certification information decrypted by said decrypting means, whether a sender of said electronic mail is an authentic user; and

a storing means for storing, if said sender of said electronic mail has been certified by said certifying means to be an authentic user, said control command extracted by said second extracting means.

2. A receiving apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

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an executing means for executing said control command stored in said storing means.

3. A receiving apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said certification information is predetermined text information in an encrypted state.

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4. A receiving apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said certification information inserted in said electronic mail is predetermined information encrypted by use of a secret key owned by said authentic user and said decrypting means decrypts said certification information extracted by said first extracting means by use of a public key.

5. A receiving method comprising:
a receiving step of receiving an electronic mail transmitted through a network;
a first extracting step of extracting an encrypted certification information inserted in said electronic mail received in said receiving step;
a second extracting step of extracting a control command inserted in said electronic mail received in said receiving step for controlling a predetermined electric device;
a decrypting step of decrypting said certification information extracted in said first extracting step;

a certifying step of certifying, by referencing the certification information decrypted in said decrypting step, whether a sender of said electronic mail is an authentic user; and

a storing step of storing, if said sender of said electronic mail has been certified in said certifying step to be an authentic user, said control command extracted in said second extracting step.

6. A transmitting apparatus comprising:

an electronic mail inputting means for inputting an electronic mail;

an encrypting means for encrypting predetermined information;

a first adding means for adding as certification information said predetermined information encrypted by said encrypting means to said electronic mail inputted through said electronic mail inputting means;

a second adding means for adding a control command for controlling a predetermined electric device to said electronic mail inputted through said electronic mail inputting means; and

a transmitting means for transmitting through a network said electronic mail with said certification information added by said first adding means and said

control command added by said second adding means.

7. A transmitting method comprising:

an electronic mail inputting step of inputting an electronic mail;

a first adding step of adding certification information generated by encrypting predetermined information to said electronic mail inputted in said electronic mail inputting step;

a second adding step of adding a control command for controlling a predetermined electric device to said electronic mail inputted in said electronic mail inputting step; and

a transmitting step of transmitting through a network said electronic mail with said certification information added in said first adding step and said control command added in said second adding step.

8. A transmitting/receiving apparatus, a

transmitting side thereof comprising:
an electronic mail inputting means for inputting an
electronic mail message.

an encrypting means for encrypting predetermined information.

a first adding means for adding, as certification information, information encrypted by said encrypting means

to said electronic mail inputted by said electronic
inputting means;

a second adding means for adding a control command
for controlling a predetermined electric device to said
electronic mail inputted by said electronic mail inputting
means;

and a transmitting means for transmitting said
electronic mail with said certification information added
by said first adding means and said control command added
by said second adding means;

a receiving side of said transmitting/receiving
apparatus comprising:

a receiving means for receiving an electronic mail
transmitted through a network

a first extracting means for extracting said
certification information inserted in said electronic mail
received by said receiving means;

a second extracting means for extracting said
control command inserted in said electronic mail received
by said receiving means;

a decrypting means for decrypting said
certification information extracted by said first
extracting means;

a certifying means for certifying, by referencing

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said certification information decrypted by said decrypting means, whether a sender of said electronic mail is an authentic user; and

a storing means for storing, if said sender of said electronic mail has been certified by said certifying means to be an authentic user, said control command extracted by said second extracting means.

9. A transmitting/receiving method, a transmitting side thereof comprising:

an electronic mail inputting step of inputting an electronic mail;

an encrypting step of encrypting predetermined information;

a first adding step of adding, as certification information, information encrypted in said encrypting step to said electronic mail inputted in said electronic inputting step;

a second adding step of adding a control command for controlling a predetermined electric device to said electronic mail inputted in said electronic mail inputting step;

and a transmitting step of transmitting said electronic mail with said certification information added in said first adding step and said control command added in

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said second adding step;

a receiving side of said transmitting/receiving method comprising:

a receiving step of receiving an electronic mail transmitted through a network

a first extracting step of extracting said certification information inserted in said electronic mail received in said receiving step;

a second extracting step of extracting said control command inserted in said electronic mail received in said receiving step;

a decrypting step of decrypting said certification information extracted in said first extracting step;

a certifying step of certifying, by referencing said certification information decrypted in said decrypting step, whether a sender of said electronic mail is an authentic user; and

a storing step of storing, if said sender of said electronic mail has been certified in said certifying step to be an authentic user, said control command extracted in said second extracting step.

Rodd H